

Message Text

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NODIS
FOR CHARGE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1/2

TAGS: PGOV PDIP IS EG JO XF

SUBJECT: APPROACH TO KING HUSSEIN

1. WHILE RECOGNIZING THE KING IS STILL ON HIS HONEYMOON,
WE NOTE THAT HE AND QUEEN ARE IN AMMAN AND THAT HE WILL
DEPART FOR SCOTLAND ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21. YOU SHOULD DO
YOUR BEST TO SEEK AN APPOINTMENT WITH HIM BEFORE HIS
DEPARTURE, BUT, IF THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, MAKE THE FOLLOWING
POINTS TO SHARAF AND ASK HIM TO CONVEY THEM TO THE KING:

-- WHILE THE ISRAELI REPLIES DID NOT ANSWER THE QUESTIONS
WE HAVE POSED, THEY WERE NOT A SURPRISE TO US. WE EXPECTED
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THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING NECESSARY MOVEMENT IN THE
ISRAELI POSITION WOULD BE DIFFICULT AND TIME CONSUMING,
AND THAT IT WILL NOT BEAR FRUIT IN TERMS OF GOVERNMENTAL
DECISIONS WITHOUT A PROLONGED INTERNAL POLITICAL STRUGGLE
OVER BEGIN'S PEACE POLICIES. THE CABINET COMMUNIQUE OF
JUNE 18 WAS ONE MORE EPISODE IN THE PROCESS AND IT IS NOT
THE END OF THE ROAD.

-- WE ARE NOW DISCUSSING WITH THE EGYPTIANS OUR NEXT STEPS AND HOPE TO BE IN A POSITION TO CONSULT THE KING SHORTLY ABOUT NEXT STEPS. IN THE MEANTIME IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE KING TO REALIZE THAT WE ARE PROCEEDING ON A COURSE THAT WE

--
BELIEVE HAS A CHANCE OF PRODUCING THE PROGRESS WE ALL WANT.

-- WE RECOGNIZE THAT HUSSEIN AND OTHERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST ARE SKEPTICAL THAT PROGRESS IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE MADE, GIVEN THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE ISRAELIS. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THE FORCES SET IN MOTION THROUGH THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT HAVE OCCURRED, AND THE DYNAMICS IN THE INTERNAL POLITICAL SCENE IN ISRAEL IN PARTICULAR, CANNOT BE TURNED OFF. WE INTEND TO KEEP POLITICAL FERMENT ALIVE AS PART OF THE ESSENTIAL PROCESS OF BRINGING THE NEGOTIATING PARTIES EVENTUALLY TO MORE ACCOMMODATING POSITIONS. THE U.S. REMAINS COMMITTED TO FIND A BASIC FRAMEWORK FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT, WHATEVER THE OBSTACLES AND DISAPPOINTMENTS.

--IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT MODERATE LEADERS--IN PARTICULAR THE LEADERS OF JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA--DO THEIR BEST TO LEND SUPPORT TO THIS COURSE AND NOT JOIN WITH THOSE WHO ARE SO EAGER TO DENOUNCE THE EFFORTS WE ARE PROMOTING AS A
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FAILURE.

-- WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT AT SOME FUTURE DATE A CHANGE OF STRATEGY MAY BECOME NECESSARY; FOR THE TIME BEING HOWEVER WE EMPHATICALLY BELIEVE THE PRESENT EFFORTS HAVE NOT RUN THEIR COURSE AND WE URGE OUR FRIENDS IN THE AREA NOT TO RUSH TO JUDGMENT UNTIL OUR SCENARIO HAS BEEN GIVEN A CHANCE TO BE TESTED.

-- WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT HUSSEIN, DESPITE HIS RESERVATIONS AND SKEPTICISM, WILL ACCEPT OUR REQUEST TO REMAIN PATIENT AND RESTRAINED AT THIS SENSITIVE TIME. WE HOPE THAT HE WILL GIVE US OUR OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY THE ROLE WE THINK WE CAN. WE ARE MAKING THIS REQUEST, NOT ON BEHALF OF SADAT, BUT FOR OUR OWN SAKE AND THE SAKE OF THOSE WHO REMAIN CONVINCED EVERY EFFORT MUST CONTINUE TO BE MADE TO SEEK A SETTLEMENT.

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